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MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

HAVERHILL URBAN DISTRICT

in the

Administrative County of West Suffolk

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

for the year

1967

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health for the Urban District of Haverhill in the County of West Suffolk for the year ended the 31st December, 1967.

Public Health Department,
Severals House,
Newmarket.

July, 1968.

To the Chairman and Members of
the Haverhill Urban District Council

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for 1967.

The Birth Rate continued at a higher level than that for the country as a whole.

The Death Rate was about the same as that for England and Wales.

The Infant Mortality Rate was extremely low but, being based upon only one infant death, this fact had no statistical significance.

The incidence of Infectious Disease was generally low.

I wish to express my appreciation of the help afforded me in compiling the Report by the Clerk of the Council, the Public Health Inspector and the Engineer and Surveyor.

My thanks are also offered to the Chairman and all members of the Public Health Committee for their help and encouragement throughout the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

A. FARNILL MORGAN

Medical Officer of Health

SECTION A

GENERAL STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

Area of the District	2,530 acres
Rateable Value (as at 1.4.67)	£332,166
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£1,472
Rates ..... (County Rate 8/8d. U.D.C. Rate 5/-)	13/8d.
Number of inhabited houses	3476
Estimated population	10,300
Population - Census 1961	5,446

The industrial activities of the district are varied and include agriculture, the manufacture of ready made clothing, gloves, mats, textile fabrics, brushes, ropes, twines, sacks, telecommunications equipment, office furniture, steel furniture, wooden furniture, athletic equipment, sheet metal products, essences, oil well equipment, jewellery, ladders, non-ferrous castings, scientific glassware, fibre glass mouldings, wooden cabinets, wooden household products, fine chemicals, refri ration appliances, tools and electrical and mechanical components, ventilation equipment, display models, motor vehicle lamp holders and batteries. There are firms engaged in engineering, specialist packing, the processing of animal feeding stuffs, paper converting and food warehousing.

There is a Town development scheme which is being carried out with the co-operation of the Greater London Council.

SECTION B

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR
(Figures in brackets relate to previous year)

LIVE BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	151	131	282	(262)
Illegitimate	7	4	11	(9)
Total	158	135	293	(271)

Live birth rate per 1,000 population	28.4	(28.6)
Corrected birth rate, (Comp. factor 0.74)	21.0	(21.4)
Live birth rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	17.2	(17.7)
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	3.7	(3.3)

STILLBIRTHS	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	2	3	5	(6)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(-)
Total	2	3	5	(6)

Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	16.8	(21.7)
" " " " " " " " (Eng. & Wales) ..	14.8	(15.4)

TOTAL LIVE AND STILL BIRTHS	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	153	134	287	(268)
Illegitimate	7	4	11	(9)
Total	160	138	298	(277)

DEATHS	Male	Female	Total	
	36	38	74	(67)

Death rate per 1,000 population	7.2	(7.1)
Corrected death rate (Comp. factor 1.57)	11.3	(11.0)
Death rate per 1,000 population (England & Wales)	11.2	(11.7)

INFANT MORTALITY - Deaths of infants under one year of age.

	Male	Female	Total	
Legitimate	-	1	1	(5)
Illegitimate	-	-	-	(-)
Total	-	1	1	(5)

INFANT MORTALITY RATES

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	3.4	(18.4)
" " " " " " " " (England & Wales)	18.3	(19.0)
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legit. live births	3.5	(19.1)
Illegitimate " " " " illegit." "	-	(-)

NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births	3.4	(11.1)

EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births	3.4	(11.1)

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths	20.1	(32.5)

ADJUSTED BIRTH AND DEATH RATES FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

	1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Birth Rates	17.3	23.2	20.9	20.1	21.4
Death Rates	11.3	12.6	12.5	10.9	11.0

CAUSES OF DEATH AT ALL AGES

	Male	Female	Total
Cancer (all types)	10	5	15
Leukaemia and Aleukaemia	-	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	6	8	14
Coronary disease, angina	11	6	17
Other heart disease	-	5	5
Other circulatory disease	-	1	1
Pneumonia	1	3	4
Bronchitis	6	1	7
Ulcer of stomach	-	1	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	3	5
All other accidents	-	3	3
Suicide	-	1	1
	36	38	74 (67)

SECTION C

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA

Public Health Officers of the Authority:

(a) Dr. A. Farnill Morgan, M.B., B.S., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., L.R.F.P.S., D.P.H. Whole time Medical Officer of Health (is also M.O.H. to other local authorities).

(b) Mr. F.G. Johnson, C.Eng., A.M.I. Mun.E., M.R.S.H., M.I.H.E. Engineer & Surveyor

(c) Mr. R. Banks, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., A.I.P.H.E. Public Health Inspector

Hospitals

There are no hospitals within the area.

Ambulance Facilities

The West Suffolk County Council are responsible for the ambulance service.

Nursing in the Home

District Nurses are available for nusing and midwifery duties.

Infant Welfare

A welfare clinic is held weekly on Fridays and is provided by the West Suffolk County Council.

SECTION D

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

The number of notifications received during the last ten years as compared with 1967 is shown in the following table :-

	57	58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67
Diphtheria	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	3	4	-	5	6	13	1	7	21	1	-
Erysipelas	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1
Ophthalmia neonatorum	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Measles	9	85	11	2	191	3	246	5	34	549	5
Whooping Cough	40	5	5	2	27	4	8	29	1	21	30
Pneumonia	-	5	7	2	2	2	-	-	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis (paralytic)	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	53	100	23	11	227	22	255	41	57	571	37

SECTION E

TUBERCULOSIS

One new case of pulmonary tuberculosis was notified during the year.

There were no deaths from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis Register

	Pulmonary		Non-Pulmonary		
	Male	Female	Male	Female	TOTAL
1. Cases at commencement 1967	12	15	1	3	31
2. First notified during 1967	-	1	-	-	1
3. Restored to Register	-	-	-	-	-
4. Added by transfers	-	3	-	-	3
5. Cases removed from Register	3	3	-	-	6
6. Remaining at 31.12.67	9	16	1	3	29

SECTION F

WATER SUPPLY

Mains water is supplied to your area by the West Suffolk Water Board and the information regarding the purity of the water was supplied by the Board.

Purity of the Water

Samples taken throughout the district for bacteriological examination were satisfactory.

Samples for chemical analysis were taken by the Board from the Haverhill and Bartlow sources. The Analyst's remarks were as follows :-

(a) Bartlow P.S.

"This water is of very good organic quality and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The total hardness amounts to 23° Clark, including nearly 20° of temporary hardness. The iron content is negligible and the water remains bright and clear on standing. The pH is on the alkaline side of neutrality, as is desirable. The mineral analysis is in accordance with expectation for a water derived from the East Anglian chalk. The fluoride content of the water is negligible. In our opinion this water is suitable for drinking and general purposes."

(b) Haverhill P.S. - Bore No. 2

"The organic quality of this water is good and there is no chemical evidence of pollution. The analysis as a whole differs little from that of the previous sample from this bore except that the chloride content is 8 p.p.m. higher. In our opinion this water is suitable for drinking purposes."

Water Charges

The water charges for domestic properties for 1967 was 1/9d. in the £. net annual value and for metered supplies was 3/8d. per thousand gallons to 31st March 1967 and 4/0d. per thousand gallons from 31st March, 1967.

Rainfall

Rainfall as registered by the rain gauge at the Waterworks during the years 1962 to 1966 and at the Sewage Works in 1967, as compared with 1967.

	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962
January	1.21	1.02	1.96	0.80	1.14	2.45
February	1.59	2.25	0.81	1.44	0.70	0.73
March	0.80	0.51	1.63	2.02	2.72	1.11
April	2.48	2.15	2.03	1.94	2.24	1.74
May	2.83	1.34	1.05	1.15	2.13	1.65
June	1.54	2.95	1.91	3.14	0.64	0.13
July	1.18	2.71	3.00	0.76	2.07	3.96
August	1.99	2.01	2.67	0.62	4.42	1.71
September	2.28	0.65	3.83	0.79	2.79	2.46
October	3.95	2.52	0.70	0.90	2.27	1.04
November	2.27	1.63	2.46	1.05	3.91	1.41
December	2.33	3.08	3.72	1.69	0.53	1.96
	24.45	22.82	25.77	16.30	25.56	20.35

OEPN-AIR SWIMMING POOL

The Open-Air Swimming Pool is situated at Swan Lane near to the centre of the town. The main pool is 75' x 30' with a maximum depth of 7' constructed in 1930, with a Junior Pool 40' x 20' with a depth varying from 1' 6" to 3' 0". A filtration and chlorination plant was installed in 1938 and increased in capacity in 1964.

The charges are £1. 5s. 0d. for Adult Season Ticket holders and 12/6d. half season, 17/6d. for Junior Season Tickets and 10/- for half season, 2/- Adults and 1/- for Junior admission.

There were 9 adult full season and 17 adult half season tickets sold and 214 junior full season and 76 junior half season tickets sold.

In addition 1,583 adults and 9,655 juniors paid for admission.

The pool was reserved for the exclusive use of schools during the summer term in the mornings and four afternoons and one evening each week is reserved for the Swimming Club.

Daily field tests are carried out on the bath water and regular bacteriological tests are carried out which show that a regular high standard was achieved.

COPY OF REPORT

PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY SERVICE

Nature of Sample: From the Small Swimming Pool, Swan Lane, Haverhill
" " Large " " " " "

Date of Collection: 4.7.67
Date of arrival: 4.7.67

REPORT Date of Report 6. 7. 67

Plate-Count. Yeastrel agar 24 hours 37° Aerobically .....0.....per mil.
Probable number of coliform bacilli, MacConkey 2 days 37°C ...0.... " "
" " " Bact. coli (type I) .....0.... " "

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The Council's Sewage Disposal Works which is situated in Coupals Road now caters for a population of approximately 10,300 persons with an allowance for trade wastes and a design for an extension to 18,500 with an increased capacity for trade wastes is in hand.

Number of dwelling houses connected to the Sewers 3,284
Number of dwelling houses not connected to the Sewers
(not within a reasonable distance of a public sewer) 42

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Collection of domestic and trade refuse is undertaken by the department. 3,287 domestic premises and approximately 324 trade, commercial and other premises are now collected weekly.

The bonus system of refuse collection which was organised in 1963 is continuing and is working satisfactorily.

Collection is carried out by a 40 cu. yd. Dennis Paxit III compressor type lorry and disposal is by tipping.

The Council have under consideration plans for additional controlled tipping areas and the provision of a Refuse Disposal plant. Paper sack receptacles are now being used on all new Council estates. The collection of bulk items of household refuse is undertaken free of charge.

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Number of visits and inspections	2,364

The above inspections are divided into :-

Dwelling Houses (Housing Act)	34
Dwelling Houses (Public Health Act)	119
Moveable Dwellings	2
Verminous Premises	3
Infectious disease enquiries	13
Complaints investigated	299
Bakehouses	3
Butchers' Shops & Manufacturing Premises	34
Cafes, Restaurants & Canteens	38
Dairies	3
Wet & Fried fish shops	8
Other food shops	108
Food Stalls & Vehicles	404
Public Houses	16
Slaughterhouses	130
Drainage	52
Rodent Infestation	308
Insect Infestation	53
Disinfestation	2
Clean Air Act 1956	33
Factories	208
Outworkers Premises	50
Offices, Shops & Railway Premises Act 1963	148
Noise Abatement Act	11
Water Sampling	31
Water Supplies	26
Swimming Baths	14
Agriculture (Safety, Health & Welfare Provisions) Act 1956 ..	2
Animal Boarding Establishments	1
Explosives Act 1875 & 1923	19
Petroleum Installations	74
Hackney Carriage Vehicles	28
Miscellaneous Visits	89
Diseases of Animals Act	1

Number of Informal Notices	14

COUNCIL HOUSING

During the year 12 4-bedroom houses, 113 3-bedroom houses, 8 1-bedroom bungalows and 6 bedsitter bungalows were completed.

At the end of the year the Council owned :-

131	4-bedroom houses
1,700	3-bedroom houses
253	2-bedroom houses
52	2-bedroom bungalows
34	1-bedroom bungalows
46	bedsitter bungalows
4	3-bedroom flats
36	2-bedroom flats
16	1-bedroom flats
16	bedsitter flats
23	other houses purchased by the Council
2,311	dwellings

DETAILS OF MEAT CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

PIGS

22 Heads	Tuberculosis
2 Heads	Abscessed
71 Livers	Cirrhosis
3 Plucks	Pleurisy
1 Pluck	Abscessed
6 Plucks	Cirrhosis
31 Sets of lungs	Pneumonia
2 Hearts	Pericarditis
5 sets of kidneys	Nephritis
72½ lbs. Carcase Meat	Bruising
10 lbs. Carcase Meat	Peritonitis
2 lbs. Carcase Meat	Arthritis
3 lbs. Carcase Meat	Abscessed
1 Carcase and organs	Pleurisy & Peritonitis
1 Carcase and organs	Moribund
1 Carcase and organs	Generalised Emaciation
1 Carcase and organs	Pyaemia

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED IN WHOLE OR IN PART

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
Number Killed	-	-	33	3	909
Number inspected	-	-	33	3	909
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticercosis					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	4
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	127
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticercosis	-	-	-	-	14.41
Tuberculosis only					
Whole carcases condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	22
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	2.42
Cysticercosis					
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

FOOD PREMISES

Butchers shops	7
Butchers' manufacturing premises	6
Bakehouses	1
Grocers' and general stores	18
Cafes, school kitchens and factory canteens	16
Wet and fried fish shops	4
Greengrocery	6
Sweets, confectionery	17
Dairies, pasteurising plants and milk depots	2
Hotels with catering facilities	2
Public houses and licensed clubs	14
Off licence shops	1
Licensed slaughterhouses	1

For the most part there was the utmost co-operation from members of the food trades in securing compliance with the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960 and 1962 and all of the above-mentioned premises were fitted to comply with Regulations 16 and 19 of the Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

SECTION G

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act 1961

Part 1 of the Act

1 - Inspections for the purpose of the provision as to health (including inspections made by Public Heath Inspectors)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	2	-	-
(2) Factories not included in (1) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	80	187	2	-
(3) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers premises)	8	19	-	-
Total	90	208	2	-

Cases in which DEFECTS were found
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)					
Overcrowding (S.2)					
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)					
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)					
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)					
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient					
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2			
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1			
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)					
Total	3	3			

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Outwork - Sections 133 and 134

Section 133				Section 134		
Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list required by Section 133 (1) (C)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome Premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Wearing apparel making etc.	36	-	-	-	-	-
Total	36	-	-	-	-	-